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Sustainable development

Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Report of the Secretary-General**

Summary

The present report, prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 59/227, provides an update on actions taken by Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and major groups in advancing implementation of sustainable development goals and targets, including through partnerships for sustainable development.

The report contains a summary of the outcome of the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its policy session and a brief evaluation of the first two-year cycle of the Commission's multi-year programme of work. The report also provides a snapshot of activities at the regional and country levels, as well as ongoing inter-agency activities in ensuring a coordinated follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development. The report also reports on the progress made in advancing partnerships for sustainable development and in further integrating major groups into the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development. The report recommends that Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and major groups continue to support the Commission on Sustainable Development, its ongoing reform and its work aimed at expediting progress in the implementation of its mandate.

* A/60/150.
** Submission of the present report was delayed in order to incorporate updated information.

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I. Background

1. In its resolution 59/227 of 22 December 2004, the General Assembly reaffirmed its commitment to implement Agenda 21,[1] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[2] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation).[3] The Assembly reiterated that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration.[4] The Assembly called upon Governments and organizations at all levels, as well as major groups, to undertake results-oriented initiatives and activities to support the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development and to promote and facilitate the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including through voluntary multi-stakeholder partnership initiatives.

2. In the same resolution, the General Assembly, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to strengthen system-wide inter-agency cooperation and coordination and welcomed the contributions of the regional commissions to the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

3. The present report has been prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 59/227 in order to provide an update on progress in its implementation. It should be read in conjunction with other reports submitted under the agenda item on sustainable development, including those related to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UN-Habitat, the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa and the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, as well as the report on matters relating to small island developing States.

II. Follow-up action taken at the intergovernmental level

4. Member States remain engaged in the intergovernmental process relating to sustainable development, as evidenced by their active participation in the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, the Economic and Social Council and the regional commissions, among other bodies.

5. As the high-level intergovernmental body within the United Nations on sustainable development, the Commission continued its thematic focus on water, sanitation and human settlements during its policy year. Building upon the outcome of its intergovernmental preparatory meeting held in February 2005 and the review session in 2004, at its thirteenth session the Commission focused on practical and action-oriented policy decisions to speed up implementation.

A. Outcome of the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development

6. Under the Commission's multi-year programme of work, its sessions are organized in two-year implementation cycles, consisting of a review session in the first year and a policy session in the second. The thirteenth session, which was a policy session, marked the completion of the first two-year implementation cycle.

7. More than 2,000 participants attended the session, including some 100 ministers with portfolio responsibilities for water, health, housing, finance, trade and development cooperation, as well as ministers of the environment. The active participation of ministers demonstrated the continuing political commitment of Governments to the work of the Commission. Along with a Partnerships Fair and Learning Centre, the thirteenth session of the Commission featured a regional perspectives meeting and a panel discussion of ministers and experts, active in the field of finance and development cooperation, co-moderated by the Minister of Finance of South Africa and Minister for International Development of Norway.

8. Some 600 representatives of major groups contributed to the discussions, making over 100 interventions during interactive discussions. With the broad engagement of major groups, the thirteenth session of the Commission demonstrated that the participation of representatives of major groups could be more effectively integrated into the work of the Commission (see sect. VI below).

9. Building on the work of its twelfth session (a review session) and its intergovernmental preparatory meeting, which produced a Chairman's summary and a user-friendly matrix of policy options, at its thirteenth session the Commission adopted policy decisions aimed at accelerating progress in implementation in the areas of water, sanitation and human settlements. Its decisions set forth approximately 30 policy options and some 100 practical measures and actions.[5]

10. To accelerate progress in providing access to safe drinking water, the Commission called for: instituting economic incentives to encourage the participation of small-scale water service providers; implementing affordable water tariffs to contribute to the financial sustainability of water services; and targeting subsidies for the poor, including connection costs. The decisions also set out specific actions for better water management, including more efficient irrigation, and for training farmers and water users associations in efficient water use.

11. With regard to sanitation, the Commission stressed the need for establishing an institutional home for the issue and giving it priority in national development plans and budgets. In its decisions, the Commission further emphasized measures to target investment to areas of greatest need and greatest impact, such as schools, work places and health centres and to assess the health impact of the lack of sanitation at the community level. Also highlighted was the need for financial and technical assistance to national and local authorities in deploying effective and environmentally sound sewerage systems and for the treatment and reuse of wastewater.

12. Regarding human settlements, the Commission called on Governments, with assistance from the international community, to design pro-poor policies with a focus on tenure security and access to affordable serviced land in order to improve access of the poor, in particular slum dwellers, to decent and affordable housing and

basic services. The decisions of the Commission also outlined actions aimed at giving particular attention to the equal rights of women to own and inherit land and other property and to gain access to credit markets. Also emphasized were practical measures designed to incorporate employment and enterprise development policies into national planning and slum prevention and upgrading programmes and to provide education and vocational training to women and youth with a view to improving their access to decent jobs. Governments were also encouraged to promote public-public and public-private partnerships for financing and developing infrastructure and affordable housing.

13. To maximize the impact of those measures and actions in all three areas and to increase their synergy, the Commission adopted measures to address the interlinkages among water, sanitation and human settlements and to improve national coordination. The decisions also contain an innovative voluntary monitoring mechanism by which the Commission requested the Secretariat to update, on a regular basis, policy options and practical measures and to develop web-based tools to disseminate information on implementation and best practice.

14. The Commission also agreed on specific follow-up action in relation to small island developing States, deciding to devote one day of its future review sessions to the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy. The Commission further decided to submit its decisions to the Economic and Social Council as a significant contribution to the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly in September 2005.

15. Viewed as a continuum, the twelfth and thirteenth sessions of the Commission, including the intergovernmental preparatory meeting held in February 2005, which generated a Chairman's summary on policy options and its user-friendly matrix, successfully delivered what was envisaged at the eleventh session of the Commission, that is, identifying obstacles and constraints and deciding on practical measures to address them to advance implementation.

16. During the two-year cycle, close to 1,000 participants attended more than 30 courses in the Learning Centre as part of the capacity-building activities. The Partnerships Fair provided an important venue for networking among partners and for exchanging lessons learned and best practices. The number of partnerships registered with the Secretariat has increased from 235 in 2003 to over 300 (see sect. VII below).

17. The challenge ahead is to ensure effective follow-up to the policy decisions on water, sanitation and human settlements and to continue refining the methods of work of the Commission with a view to further enhancing its impact on implementation. The lessons learned will feed into the preparations for the second implementation cycle, which will address energy for sustainable development, industrial development, atmosphere/air pollution and climate change.

B. Economic and Social Council

18. At the World Summit on Sustainable Development, member States called on the Economic and Social Council to make full use of its high-level, coordination, operational activities and general segments to effectively take into account all relevant aspects of the work of the United Nations on sustainable development.

During its 2005 substantive session, the Council devoted its high-level segment to the topic of "Achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, as well as implementing the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits: progress made, challenges and opportunities". During their deliberations, members of the Council highlighted the connections among the social, economic and environmental dimensions of the internationally agreed development goals and underlined the need for promoting an integrated and coordinated approach to their implementation.

19. The coordination segment of the Economic and Social Council focused on the implementation of the agreed development goals and the relevant role of the United Nations system at the international and country levels. The deliberations complemented the discussions at the high-level segment and contributed to the thematic coherence among the different segments of the Council's session. Member States noted that the Council is especially well placed to serve as a platform for systematic and comprehensive monitoring of overall progress in implementation and stressed the Council's role in providing guidance to the United Nations funds and programmes and specialized agencies in implementation.

20. The Council's general segment reviewed, inter alia, the outcomes of the work of the Council's functional commissions, including that of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its thirteenth session. During their deliberations, Member States stressed the need for the provision of means of implementation, including official development assistance and technology transfer, in order to achieve sustainable development. The importance of taking stock of the outcome of the work of the Commission at its thirteenth session was also emphasized with a view to guiding the Commission's work at future sessions. Member States also called upon the functional commissions to take into account all aspects of sustainable development, including the social dimensions, in their programmes of work.

III. Inter-agency cooperation and coordination

21. The United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) continues to take the lead in coordinating system-wide activities in sustainable development. Through its High-level Committee on Programmes, CEB provided overall guidance to the work of UN-Water, UN-Energy, UN-Oceans and other inter-agency cooperation initiatives in sustainable development.

22. Since the World Summit on Sustainable Development, UN-Water had initiated several activities based on the thematic priorities for its work. These priorities include water scarcity and pollution; sanitation, safe drinking water and health; gender mainstreaming in water and sanitation; integrated water resources management; transboundary water issues and disaster reduction. In 2005, UN-Water reviewed the progress on the development of the second edition of the *World Water Development Report* (due out in 2006) and issues related to the programme of work for the Decade for Action: "Water for Life" 2005-2015.

23. In April 2004, the High-level Committee on Programmes endorsed the terms of reference and work programme of UN-Energy (http://esa.un.org/un-energy/). At its first meeting in July 2004, UN-Energy elaborated its future work plan and modalities for interaction with non-United Nations stakeholders. Since then,

UN-Energy had undertaken several initiatives, including the launching in July 2005 of a paper on the energy challenges for achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

24. As the inter-agency coordination mechanism on oceans and coastal issues, UN-Oceans (http://www.un-oceans.org) held its first meeting in January 2005 and agreed to set up four time-bound task groups, each coordinated by a lead organization, in accordance with the guidelines of the CEB High-level Committee on Programmes. UN-Oceans will also continue the inter-agency work of overseeing the management and development of the United Nations Atlas of the Oceans (http://www.oceansatlas.org/), a web-based information system. In addition, several member organizations of UN-Oceans will participate in the International Conference on Integrated Ocean Policy, scheduled to take place in Lisbon, in October 2005.

25. The CEB High-level Committee on Programmes also endorsed the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production as the basis for inter-agency cooperation in this area. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs, in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and with the participation of other United Nations organizations, held the first international expert meeting on the ten-year framework in Marrakesh, Morocco, in June 2003, launching the Marrakesh Process. Regional meetings had since been organized by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and UNEP in the Asia-Pacific region, in Latin America and the Caribbean and in Africa and Europe. The second international expert meeting on the ten-year framework/Marrakesh Process will be held in Costa Rica in September 2005.

IV. Regional activities

26. The United Nations regional commissions and offices, regional development banks and other regional organizations continue to contribute to regional implementation of sustainable development goals and targets. All five regional commissions have developed priority programme activities in sustainable development. The Economic Commission for Europe has stressed the importance of introducing the outlook for sustainable development in all relevant activities of the Commission. Ongoing activities include the development of standards and recommendations in sustainable transport, promotion of energy efficient technology and energy efficient investment projects and promotion of sustainable forest management.

27. The Economic Commission for Africa has established its own Sustainable Development Division for servicing its Committee on Sustainable Development and for implementing programme activities in support of sustainable development in Africa. In 2005, among other regional initiatives, the Commission released its inaugural issue of *Africa's Sustainable Development Bulletin*. The Commission also continued to implement programme activities in fostering the African "green revolution", strengthening regional cooperation in water resources management and in monitoring regional trends in sustainable development.

28. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean continued its implementation activities in 2005 across several areas of sustainable development. In March 2005, the Commission, in collaboration with the World Health

Organization (WHO), organized a meeting on social determinants of health. Among other activities, it sponsored a course on geothermal energy and organized a regional seminar on municipal financing and urban poverty, a workshop on future transport challenges and an international meeting on modernization of water law.

29. Through its Sustainable Development and Productivity Division, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia pursues an integrated approach to sustainable management of water, energy and other resources and production sectors. It strives to increase the awareness of decision makers on sustainable development practices while emphasizing the need for identifying appropriate solutions for the utilization of water and energy resources. Among other activities, it contributed to an Arab regional workshop on national sustainable development strategies and indicators of sustainable development.

30. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific has continued to implement a broad range of programme activities in support of sustainable development in the region, including through its Environment and Sustainable Development Division. Among other activities, it organized a number of national workshops on integration of energy and rural development policies and programmes. It is planning to organize an expert meeting on promotion of sustainable consumption patterns through cultural values and traditional lifestyles in the region. In March 2005, the Commission also convened its Ministerial Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, focusing on green growth.

31. During both the intergovernmental preparatory meeting for the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the session itself, representatives of the secretariats of regional commissions and the regional bureaux of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), as well as the African Development Bank, participated in regional perspectives discussions and contributed to an improved understanding of policy options and practical measures that address region-specific challenges and circumstances.

V. Country initiatives

32. Since the holding of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, member States have made available a significant amount of national information to the Commission on Sustainable Development, showcasing voluntary commitments, case studies and best practices in sustainable development. As implementation at the country level accelerates, such information allows Governments and other actors involved in the process to exchange lessons learned and to benefit from each other's success stories.

33. One key lesson that has emerged from such information is the crucial importance of political commitment. Following the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Senegal established the Ministry of Prevention, Hygiene Promotion and Sanitation (Ministère de la Prévention, de l'Hygiene Publique et de l'Assainissement) as the ministerial-level institutional home for addressing sanitation issues. This led to a series of initiatives, including a recent launching of wastewater collection networks in the country. Senegal intends to set up sanitation networks in all secondary towns by 2010, including wastewater recycling and lagoon stations for the re-use of processed water in agriculture and construction. By

2015, Senegal aims to implement rural sanitation programmes and to make adequate sanitation available to about 80 per cent of the population.

34. Other countries have undertaken legislative measures to advance sustainable development. Turkey recently embarked on the drafting of a law to increase the renewable share in electricity generation and to increase private sector investments. While the draft law has yet to be enacted, applications from the private sector to the State Hydraulic Works and Energy Market Regulating Authority to implement renewable energy projects has already surged in anticipation of its entry into force.

35. The Swedish Parliament adopted environmental quality objectives relating to 15 areas, with a view to establishing an ecologically sustainable country over the long-term. Targets for 14 of the 15 areas are set for 2020 (for climate, the target is 2050). All sectors are expected to contribute to the achievement of the objectives. With respect to air quality, a number of steps have been taken to reduce emissions, such as introduction of fees on emissions of nitrogen oxides and stricter requirements on emissions from industrial activities.

36. In addition to legislation, Governments depend on national sustainable development strategies to provide overall frameworks for implementation efforts. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland launched its new strategy for sustainable development, "Securing the Future", in conjunction with a strategic framework in March 2005. The strategy takes account of developments since the 1999 strategy, both domestically and internationally; the changed structure of Government in the United Kingdom with the devolution of government to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland; and greater emphasis on delivery at the regional level and the new relationship between government and local authorities.

37. France initiated a project on the peer review of national strategy for sustainable development with the objective of developing and testing a methodology for such reviews. In February 2005, a workshop was held in Paris to exchange experiences and share lessons learned. Representatives from four peer partner countries (Belgium, Ghana, Mauritius and the United Kingdom), including representatives from civil society and international organizations, attended the workshop (see http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/natlinfo/nsds/peer_review.htm).

38. In advancing implementation, an increasing number of Governments are tapping into private sector resources through partnerships. For example, the Government of Qatar, working with the Qatar Chamber of Commerce and Industry, established the Qatar Industrial Manufacturing Company to promote small and medium-sized enterprises and downstream industries by stimulating and encouraging the role of the private sector and its investment in industrial development. The programme has been highly successful and significant funds have been made available for the development of small and medium-sized enterprises.

39. In Australia, a programme called "Greenhouse Friendly" provides businesses with an opportunity to market greenhouse-neutral products or services, deliver greenhouse gas abatement and give Australian consumers greater purchasing choices. Under a rigorous certification process, the "cradle-to-grave" greenhouse gas emissions are fully offset by accredited greenhouse abatement projects. Greenhouse Friendly certification is provided only after an objective and independent verification process. To be eligible for accreditation under the

Greenhouse Friendly programme, abatement projects must generate permanent, verifiable greenhouse gas emission reductions, avoidances or sequestration.

40. In Lithuania, a cleaner production programme is being implemented with support from the Norwegian Government to improve environmental performance, competitiveness and regulatory compliance of industry. The programme also aims to increase resource efficiency and better management by introducing the concept of cleaner production in participating industrial companies and to strengthen the capacity of local partners. Through this programme, 125 representatives from industry and from governmental institutions have been trained and certified as cleaner production experts.

41. The European Commission, as part of the Johannesburg Renewable Energy Coalition, is sponsoring the development of an innovative public-private financing mechanism to enhance access to affordable risk capital by renewable energy business and project developers. The Global Renewable Energy Fund of Funds should help close the financing gap for developing renewable energy markets and services worldwide.

42. In addition to public and private partnerships, donor Governments have provided support to developing countries in support of implementation activities. Uganda, with the support of Norway, launched an electrification programme in rural areas, where only 3 per cent of the population has access to stable electricity supplies. The programme aims to connect 400,000 households to the power grid over a 10-year period. Environmental impact assessments are under way to ensure that all environmental and socio-economic issues are managed in a sustainable manner.

43. Missions of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in South Africa, India, the Philippines and Morocco are using credit guarantees to direct bank loans to municipalities or water authorities, support bond issuances by water authorities and promote the extension of loans for rehabilitation and expansion of existing water facilities. USAID projects in Egypt, India and South Africa will mobilize private sector financing for municipalities and water authorities to purchase water meters, wastewater equipment, upgraded technologies and ancillary facility services.

44. Some implementation initiatives have benefited from the coordinated support of both bilateral and multilateral organizations. For instance, the School Sanitation and Hygiene Education programme, supported, inter alia, by UNICEF, the International Water and Sanitation Research Centre, Oxfam (UK) and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council, was originally started as a global pilot project in countries such as Burkina Faso, Colombia, Nicaragua, Nepal, Viet Nam and Zambia. It has provided limited funding for physical improvements in sanitation facilities in 10 to 20 schools per country, but it has helped catalyse resource mobilization for water and sanitation improvements in more than 11,000 schools. A pilot project in Malawi has evolved into a programme aiming to reach one quarter of the country's schools. In Ethiopia, non-governmental, multilateral and bilateral organizations have united around a common aim to improve water and sanitation in 60 per cent of the primary schools by 2007. The School Sanitation and Hygiene Education programme has been extended to more than 70 countries in the past five years (see http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd13/casestudies/case_studies_ sanitation.htm).

VI. Major groups

45. Major groups continue to play multiple roles in sustainable development at various levels. They utilize their expertise and knowledge to promote education in sustainable development, raise awareness of social, economic and environmental issues and monitor progress towards the implementation of sustainable development. They also contribute to implementation through participation in their own initiatives and in partnerships for sustainable development.

46. The high level of engagement by major groups in the work of the Commission during its twelfth session was carried forward as the Commission continued to provide opportunities for major groups to participate in the second half of the two-year cycle. Building on the outcome of the review year, the Commission invited major groups to share their views in the policy year during discussions held on policy options and possible actions to overcome key constraints and obstacles related to water, sanitation and human settlements.

47. For the intergovernmental preparatory meeting, major groups prepared papers outlining their priorities for action relevant to the themes of water, sanitation and human settlements, which were made available in the six official languages of the United Nations. On the first day of the meeting, the Commission held a two-hour session during which major groups presented the views contained in their papers. An integrated approach was maintained during the thematic discussions held throughout the session, with each segment including at least two interventions by major groups. During the closing plenary meeting all nine major groups were given an opportunity to provide final comments.

48. In addition, major groups continued to interact with experts and delegates throughout thematic discussions. When the Chairman's draft decision text was introduced, the major groups were given the unprecedented opportunity to comment on it. They later joined ministers in a dedicated interactive dialogue during the high-level segment, which focused on turning political commitments into action. Owing to protracted negotiations on the final day of the session, no time was available for major groups to make closing statements, but these statements were later made available on the website of the Commission's secretariat.

49. Both the intergovernmental preparatory meeting and the thirteenth session of the Commission maintained the level of full engagement of major groups in its work. A total of more than 600 major groups representatives from 142 different organizations attended these meetings. Major groups especially welcomed the variety of opportunities provided to them whereby they could interact with experts and delegates in thematic discussions. The inputs and active participation of major groups added significant value to the outcome of the two-year cycle, as contained in the decisions of the Commission.

VII. Partnerships for sustainable development

50. Voluntary, multi-stakeholder partnerships working towards sustainable development goals have proved to be an important complementary outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development. As of February 2005, a total of 300 such partnerships had been registered with the secretariat for the Commission on Sustainable Development.

51. Partnerships for sustainable development have a special character, they are specifically linked to implementation of globally agreed commitments in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, Agenda 21 and/or the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21. However, as stressed at the Summit, these partnerships are not a substitute for government responsibilities and commitments; they are intended to strengthen implementation by involving all those who can make a contribution to sustainable development.

52. The Commission on Sustainable Development was designated by the World Summit as the focal point for discussion on partnerships that promote sustainable development. At its eleventh session in 2003, the Commission stressed that partnerships in the context of the Summit process and its follow-up should be developed and implemented in accordance with a set of agreed criteria and guidelines. The Commission agreed that information on partnerships for sustainable development should be made publicly available. As part of this information-sharing process, the Commission requested the secretariat to make information on partnerships available through a database accessible to all interested parties.

53. In February 2004, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs launched the Partnerships for Sustainable Development database. This interactive web-accessible database contains information based on voluntary reports from lead contacts of registered partnerships and is an important tool for sharing information on partnerships-related issues. The website contains a wide variety of practical information: from details on how to register partnerships with the Commission's secretariat, to information on upcoming partnerships-related meetings, including the Partnerships Fairs, to recent publications on registered partnerships, produced by the Commission's secretariat that are available for download.

54. Various other activities are being undertaken by the secretariat to increase awareness about registered partnerships. At the recent International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States held in Port-Louis, Mauritius, from 10 to 14 January 2005, the secretariat organized a 3-day programme on partnerships activities. In addition, the secretariat produced an information document on small island developing States partnerships for the Mauritius meeting, which included brief synopses, along with contact information for the lead partners of such registered partnerships.

55. The Moroccan Ministry of Territory Planning, Water and Environment, in cooperation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, organized the second International Forum on Partnerships for Sustainable Development: Advancing Implementation on Water and Energy in Marrakesh, in March 2005. The outcome of the Forum was presented at the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

56. Partnerships for sustainable development continue to develop and grow and new partnerships continue to be launched. Many registered partnerships are operational, while others are making progress in the organizational and coordination phases of their development. In accordance with the criteria for registering partnerships with the Commission, all of these initiatives have clearly stated goals and objectives related to sustainable development that complement those outlined in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. By collaborating across all levels, sharing

skills, resources and expertise and working to develop innovative solutions to global concerns, these partnerships continue to demonstrate their importance by adding concrete value to implementation.

VIII. Conclusions and recommendations

57. **The present report shows that there is a broad range of implementation activities going on at all levels. Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and actors from the civil society should stay on this implementation track while aiming for accelerated progress.**

58. **To that end, it is recommended that the General Assembly:**

(a) **Urge Governments to continue to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;**

(b) **Call on Governments to continue their support to the Commission on Sustainable Development by organizing inter-sessional activities, making available to the Secretariat broader dissemination success stories, best practice and case studies and by contributing to the Commission's trust fund in support of its work, as requested at the Commission's thirteenth session;**

(c) **Request the CEB High-level Committee on Programmes to continue monitoring the operational efficiency and effectiveness of UN-Water, UN-Energy, UN-Oceans and other inter-agency collaborative mechanisms in the follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development;**

(d) **Call upon donor Governments and international financial institutions to target funding support to developing countries in key policy options and practical measures as identified in the policy decisions of the Commission at its thirteenth session.**

Notes

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[3] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[4] See resolution 55/2.

[5] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 9* (E/2005/29).